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can be separated from the women, because the problem of moral contagion is as great as that of physical contagion.

Competent medical attendance is essential. Adequate hospital facilities for the care of the venereal and other infections are imperative.

The atmosphere of the place should be as homelike as possible; the personnel should be selected from women who are specially qualified and trained and who have a sympathetic interest and a belief in the movement.

To merely use a detention home for the cure and treatment of venereal diseases is to promote a vicious cycle. Unless the individual detained is given a vocational training whereby a decent economic status can be maintained, the detention home contributes to delinquency rather than corrects it.

The responsibility of the detention home in the matter of correctional therapy extends beyond its walls. This responsibility is met only when an efficient follow-up system is established and maintained. William Healy, in his book, "The Individual Delinquent," says, with reference to the proper methods of treating delinquents:

"Comparable is the new social service work done in connection with hospitals, the principle being that if the hospital has given its services as far as the convalescent stage, it is a matter of the greatest economy to carry them still further and to see that the patient is restored to social efficiency. Now, the hospital patient's inefficiency is mostly a negative quantity. The ex-prisoner's failure is a positive menace. Society has undertaken to treat him for his misconduct; it desires his moral well-being and general welfare. The penal failure, which is everywhere witnessed by recidivism, can best be prevented by after-care methods that are based on full appreciation of the offender's needs and possibilities. Perfunctory parole work is to be regarded as a weak effort. The same is true of aid to discharged prisoners by whatever agency. Successful relief must be based on understanding of the individual and his relation to his environment."

The war-time detention house was designed primarily to meet an emergency to protect the fighting men from venereal infections. The peace-time detention house should be conducted to meet the needs of the peace-time program; it must be designed to protect the working forces and posterity from venereal infections. The peace-time detention home, however, must fulfill certain definite requirements: It must provide correctional facilities as well as medical facilities; it must be a house of detention, a reformatory, a protectorate, a reconstruction station all in one; and it must be a part of the State venereal disease control program, supported by legal and executive machinery and backed by enlightened public opinion.

STEAM AS A BEDBUG ERADICATOR.

The use of live steam to eradicate bedbugs has been practiced very successfully by the Booth-Kelly Lumber Co. of Eugene, Oreg., an account of which has been furnished the United States

Public Health Service by Dr. T. Tharaldsen, of Portland. The unqualified success of this company in ridding its bunkhouse of bedbugs by means of steam is particularly interesting because of the size of the building and the large number of rooms it contains.

The bunkhouse is a T-shaped building of 70 rooms, each 10 by 12 feet, and has an 8-foot hallway running the full length of each wing. It is of ordinary frame construction, with 2 by 4 inch studding, ceiled with $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch ceiling, and is of rustic finish outside. The building is heated by steam which is supplied by the mill boiler plant. The heating system consists of radiators in the halls and four $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pipes running the full length of the building and exposed in each room. These pipes are tapped in each room with a $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch tap and plugged with an ordinary pipe plug.

In heating the building the pressure in the steam pipes is reduced by means of a reducing valve to 10 or 12 pounds to the square inch; but in steaming to superheat the building to kill the bedbugs the reducing valve is opened and the pressure is increased to 80 or 100 pounds. The windows and doors are shut, but no attempt is made to calk any of the cracks. Articles which might be injured by steam are removed, but all bedding, mattresses, and clothing are left in the rooms. The plugs in each room are opened and the valves on the radiators in the halls are turned on. It requires about two hours to raise the temperature of the building to 160° F. This temperature is then held for approximately three hours. After the steaming, a great many of the dead bugs are found on the floors and under the beds.

In the first trial made it was found that a temperature of about 150° F. killed all the bugs in sight, but in this trial only one room at a time was steamed and this method failed to get the bugs between the walls and those deeply imbedded in the mattresses. The method of steaming all of the rooms at the same time proved more effective.

The company states that two months after the steaming no signs of bedbugs had been found, and that it is the intention to steam the bunkhouse three or four times a year.

THE BOYLSTON MEDICAL PRIZES.

Boylston medical prizes, which are open to public competition, are offered for the best dissertation on questions in medical science proposed by the Boylston Medical Committee.

At the annual meeting held in Boston in 1916, a prize of \$300 was awarded to an essay entitled "Studies of the Streptococcus of Smith," by Wilson G. Smillie, of Cambridge, Mass.

For 1919 there is offered a prize of \$300 and the Boylston Prize Medal for the best dissertation on the results of original research in medicine, the subject to be chosen by the writer. The Boylston